



**Maine Statewide Survey  
Likely Voters, 2020 General Election  
9.2020**

**SCREENERS**

1. In what state do you live? **[ACCEPT ONLY MAINE]**
2. What is your zip code?
3. How likely would you say you are to vote in the 2020 election for President, Congress, and other federal and statewide offices?
  - 1) Almost certain
  - 2) Very likely
  - 3) Somewhat likely
  - 4) About 50-50 **[TERMINATE]**
  - 5) Not too likely **[TERMINATE]**
  - 6) Not at all likely **[TERMINATE]**
  - 7) Don't know **[TERMINATE]**

**FAVORABILITY**

4. Do you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of each of the following?
  - 1) Very favorable
  - 2) Somewhat favorable
  - 3) Somewhat unfavorable
  - 4) Very unfavorable
  - 5) Never heard of them

**[RANDOMIZE]**

- 1) Hydro-electric power
- 2) The oil and gas industry
- 3) Central Maine Power
- 4) The Natural Resources Council of Maine
- 5) **SPLIT SAMPLE A:** The Clean Energy Corridor
- 6) **SPLIT SAMPLE B:** The Clean Energy Connect Project
- 7) Governor Janet Mills
- 8) Hydro-Québec

**VOTES**

5. If the November 2020 election for President were held today, for whom would you vote?

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**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Democrat Joe Biden
- 2) Republican Donald Trump
- 3) Someone else
- 4) Don't know/not sure

6. **[IF UNDECIDED]** Well if you had to choose, who would you vote for?

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Democrat Joe Biden
- 2) Republican Donald Trump
- 3) Someone else
- 4) Don't know/not sure

7. If the November 2020 election for U.S. Senate were held today, for whom would you vote?

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Democrat Sara Gideon
- 2) Republican Susan Collins
- 3) Someone else
- 4) Don't know/not sure

8. **[IF UNDECIDED]** Well if you had to choose, who would you vote for?

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Democrat Sara Gideon
- 2) Republican Susan Collins
- 3) Someone else
- 4) Don't know/not sure

**CLEAN ENERGY CORRIDOR OPINIONS**

9. How much would you say you know about the Clean Energy Corridor?

- 1) A great deal
- 2) Some
- 3) Not too much
- 4) Nothing at all
- 5) Don't know

10. How much would you say you have heard recently about the Clean Energy Corridor?

- 1) A great deal
- 2) Some
- 3) Not too much
- 4) Nothing at all
- 5) Don't know



11. From which of the following sources have you heard the most about the Corridor? *Please select up to two.* **[CHOOSE UP TO TWO]**

**[RANDOMIZE]**

- 1) Facebook
- 2) Word of mouth
- 3) Newspapers and newspaper websites
- 4) Television news
- 5) News websites
- 6) Twitter
- 7) Advertising before videos on YouTube
- 8) Advertising on television
- 9) Signs posted on roads and in your community
- 10) Radio advertising

12. **[IF 1,2,3, Above]:** What have you heard most recently about it? **[OPEN END]**

13. As you may know, the Clean Energy Corridor would be a transmission line in Maine that would bring hydropower from Québec to Maine and New England. Generally speaking, would you say you support building that transmission line?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) Don't Know

14. **[IF YES]:** What are the reasons you support it? **[OPEN END]**

15. **[IF NO]:** What are the reasons you oppose it? **[OPEN END]**

16. **[IF DON'T KNOW]:** What do you need to know to make your decision? **[OPEN END]**

17. **[OPEN END]** Regardless of your opinion on the corridor, if you had to convince a friend or family member to SUPPORT the corridor, what would you say?

18. Generally speaking, would you say you are hearing and seeing more from:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Supporters of the corridor
- 2) Opponents of the corridor
- 3) Neither

19. Would you say you:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Know enough about the Clean Energy Corridor and don't want to learn more
- 2) Want to learn more about the Clean Energy Corridor
- 3) Don't know



20. As you may know, there was going to be an initiative on the November ballot about the Clean Energy Corridor. Recently, the Maine Supreme Court ruled that the initiative is unconstitutional, and so it will no longer be on the ballot. Before today, had you heard about that decision?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) Don't Know

21. Would you say you support the Maine Supreme Court's decision to remove the initiative from the ballot, or oppose the Maine Supreme Court's decision?

- 1) Support
- 2) Oppose
- 3) Don't Know

22. **OPEN END:** In your own words, what is your opinion about this ruling?

23. Below are some things that some people say could happen if the Clean Energy Corridor were to be built in Maine. Please use a scale of 1-7 to rate how likely it is to happen, with 1 meaning that it is NOT AT ALL likely to happen and 7 meaning it is VERY likely to happen. Please use any number in between.

- 1) 1 NOT AT ALL likely
- 2) 2
- 3) 3
- 4) 4
- 5) 5
- 6) 6
- 7) 7 VERY likely
- 8) I don't know

**[RANDOMIZE]**

- 1) The price you pay for electricity would go down
- 2) There would be more clean, renewable energy used in Maine and New England
- 3) There would be less pollution in Maine as fewer fossil fuels are burned to generate electricity
- 4) Maine will lower its carbon emissions significantly
- 5) Maine would receive electricity from the line
- 6) Maine would reduce its carbon footprint and help address climate change
- 7) Massachusetts will pay the costs associated with the project
- 8) Polluting, fossil-fuel powered electric plants in Maine would be shut down
- 9) Long-term, good paying jobs would be created for Mainers
- 10) Maine's North Woods would be permanently damaged
- 11) Wildlife would be harmed
- 12) Foreign companies would get more benefits than Mainers
- 13) Tourists would stay away from Maine





24. Now you will see the same list again. After each, please use a scale of 1-7 to rate how good or bad that item would be if it occurred, with 1 meaning that it would be very bad and 7 meaning it would be very good, and please use any number in between.

- 1) 1 VERY bad
- 2) 2
- 3) 3
- 4) 4
- 5) 5
- 6) 6
- 7) 7 VERY good
- 8) I don't know

**[REPEAT LIST ABOVE, RANDOMIZED]**

25. Which of the following comes closer to your point of view:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Hydro-electric power is a clean, always-on renewable source of energy that along with wind and solar helps us reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and reduce carbon emissions.
- 2) Hydro-electric power is not clean. Its dams destroy rivers, harm wildlife and cause carbon emissions. And in many cases hydro-electric dams flood native peoples' lands to generate energy.
- 3) Don't Know

26. Which of the following comes closer to your point of view:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) The Clean Energy Corridor is now a done deal, and Maine should put the controversy over its construction behind us.
- 2) The controversy over the Clean Energy Corridor is still very real, and we should get it back on the ballot in the next election after 2020.
- 3) Don't Know

27. Which of the following comes closer to your point of view:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) As long as Central Maine Power and Hydro- Québec complete the permitting process and abide by all local, state and federal restrictions, the Clean Energy Corridor should begin.
- 2) Mainers should do whatever they can – either through the state legislature, lawsuits, or another ballot initiative – to stop the Clean Energy Corridor.
- 3) Don't Know

28. Which of the following comes closer to your point of view:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) The Maine legislature should pass new laws to delay or stop construction of the Clean Energy Corridor.



- 2) The Maine legislature has more important priorities than the Clean Energy Corridor, including helping our recovery from the COVID-19 economic crisis, improving schools, and addressing our health care needs.
- 3) Don't Know

29. Would you say you trust or do not trust out-of-state oil and gas companies to help determine Maine's energy future?

- 1) Trust
- 2) Do not Trust
- 3) Don't know

30. Some have proposed turning Central Maine Power into a public utility by having taxpayers purchase the power company. Would you say you:

**[ROTATE]**

- 1) Support the proposal
- 2) Oppose the proposal
- 3) Don't Know

#### MESSAGING

31. Below are some reasons that have been mentioned to support the Clean Energy Corridor. After each, please indicate how convincing it is a reason to support the corridor.

- 1) Very convincing
- 2) Somewhat convincing
- 3) Not too convincing
- 4) Not at all convincing
- 5) Don't know

**[RANDOMIZE]**

- 1) By delivering clean, renewable hydro-electric power and reducing our reliance on dirty fossil fuels, the Clean Energy Corridor will reduce our carbon footprint by the equivalent of removing 50,000 cars from Maine, and 700,000 cars across New England.
- 2) By replacing oil and gas generated electricity with hydropower, the project will allow us to remove 3,000,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide from our air.
- 3) This project will significantly reduce Maine's dependence on oil and gas and help us achieve our renewable energy goals faster – and cheaper – than any other plan.
- 4) The burning of oil and gas is directly related to rising temperatures in Maine and around the country. With Casco Bay warming faster than 99% of the world's oceans, we need to act now.
- 5) The project will create 1,600 good-paying jobs for Mainers and will invest \$10 million in economic development and regional tourism – something we need right now.



- 6) The project will generate millions of dollars for Maine dedicated to bringing more broadband to rural Maine, support the conversion to heat pumps, and also invest millions in electric vehicle infrastructure.
- 7) While there may be some short-term impact from clearing trees to build the corridor, Maine's overall environment would be far healthier when fewer fossil fuels are being burned
- 8) Hydropower is a continuous form of renewable energy – it's on even when it's cloudy or there isn't any wind. It is a necessary renewable complement to wind and solar.
- 9) The project includes energy that goes straight to Maine, and it will be sold to Mainers at a lower price than other states.
- 10) Two-thirds of the project will be using existing transmission pathways. And the new line will affect only 0.05% of the North Woods, and run exclusively through commercial forests, where logging has occurred for generations.
- 11) The corridor itself requires cutting 964 acres – but that's just a tiny fraction of Maine's forest industry which clears 400,000 acres annually.
- 12) We need hydropower to supplement our solar and wind power. Generating an equivalent amount of 500,000 megawatt hours via solar panels would require enough panels to stretch more than 2,000 miles.
- 13) If you're against hydropower, you're for protecting oil and gas.

#### ADDITIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

32. What is your age?
33. What is your gender?
  - 1) Male
  - 2) Female
34. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?
  - 1) 1 - 11th grade
  - 2) High school graduate
  - 3) Non-college post H.S. (e.g. technical/vocational school)
  - 4) Some college
  - 5) College graduate
  - 6) Post-graduate school
  - 7) Don't know
35. Last year, that is in 2019, what was your total household income from all sources, before taxes?
  - 1) Under \$20,000
  - 2) \$20,000 to under \$30,000
  - 3) \$30,000 to under \$40,000
  - 4) \$40,000 to under \$50,000
  - 5) \$50,000 to under \$60,000
  - 6) \$60,000 to under \$70,000
  - 7) \$70,000 to under \$80,000



- 8) \$80,000 to under \$90,000
- 9) \$90,000 to under \$100,000
- 10) \$100,000 to under \$125,000
- 11) \$125,000 to under \$150,000
- 12) More than \$150,000
- 13) I don't know

36. Regardless of how you are registered to vote, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, an Independent who leans Republican, an Independent who leans Democratic, or some other party?

- 1) Republican
- 2) Independent leans Republican
- 3) Independent
- 4) Independent leans Democratic
- 5) Democrat
- 6) Other/Third Party
- 7) Prefer not to say

37. Are you Latino, Hispanic, or of Spanish descent?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) I don't know

38. Are you Black, White, Asian, Native American, or some other race?

- 1) Black
- 2) White
- 3) Native American
- 4) Asian
- 5) Other
- 6) I don't know

Thank you. Those are all the questions we have for you today.